Parade 7-15-73

BLOCKBUSTER COMING

For more than a year now, Anthony Sampson, author of the highly-praised "Anatomy of Britain," has been quietly but industriously researching the operations of the International Telephone & Telegraph Company in America and Europe.

The result of his research will appear July 30 in a work to be entitled "The Sovereign State of ITT." Several chapters of the book are devoted to how ITT used its influence with the Nixon Administration--particularly with John Mitchell, John Ehrlichman, John Dean, John Connally, Maurice Stans and Spiro Agnew--to pressure the government into dropping its antitrust suit against the giant conglomerate.

Typical of the evidence Sampson has dredged up is a letter from ITT's public relations ace, Ned Gerrity, to Agnew. Dated Aug. 7, 1970, it attempts to enlist Agnew to influence indirectly Richard McLaren, then head of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division. At one point McLaren felt strongly that ITT, the 11th largest corporation in the world, should not be allowed to acquire the Hartford Fire Insurance Company. But eventually he came around. He is now a federal judge.

Herewith, a copy of the letter from Gerrity to Agnew.

August 7, 1970

The Honorable
Spiro T. Agnew

Ted:

I deeply appreciate your assistance concerning the attached memo. Our problem is to get to John the facts concerning McLaren's attitude because, as my memo indicates, McLaren seems to be running all by himself.

I think it is rather strange that he is more responsive to Phil Hart and Manny Celler than to the policy of the Administration.

After you read this, I would appreciate your reaction on how we should proceed.

Ned